

What is Claimed is:

Sub
A₁₂
1. A method for displaying OSD menu items on a screen comprising:

5 displaying a first menu level having plurality of main menu items on a first region of the screen;

opening a space between a first main menu item and a second main menu item adjacent to the first main menu item; and

10 displaying, in the opened space, a second menu level having at least one sub-menu item corresponding to the first main menu item.

2. A method of claim 1, wherein in displaying the main menu items and the sub-menu items in a direction from the top to the bottom of the screen.

15 3. A method of claim 1, wherein displaying the main menu items and the sub-menu items in a direction from the left to the right of the screen.

4. A method of claim 1, wherein the main menu items are displayed simultaneously when a user request to display the first menu level is input through a selecting device.

20 5. A method of claim 1, wherein the main menu items are sequentially displayed within a predetermined time period when

a user request to display the first menu level is input through a selecting device.

5 6. A method of claim 1, wherein sub-menu items are continuously displayed, starting from a point at which a display of the first main menu item ends to a point at which a display of the second main menu item begins.

10 7. A method of claim 6, wherein the sub-menu items are displayed simultaneously when a user request to display the second menu level is input through a selecting device.

15 8. A method of claim 6, wherein the space slides open within a predetermined time period and the sub-menu items are sequentially displayed in the opened space as the space slides open, when a user request to display the first menu level is input through a selecting device.

20 9. A method of claim 1, wherein displaying the screen in a first color, displaying the main menu items in a second color, and displaying the sub-menu items in a third color; and wherein two of the first, second, or third colors are identical or all three of the first, second and third colors are different.

10. A method of claim 1, wherein displaying the screen in

a first luminance, displaying the main menu items in a second luminance, and displaying the sub-menu in a third luminance; and wherein two of the first, second, or third luminances are identical or all three of the first, second and third luminances are different.

11. A method for displaying a menu in an OSD device comprising:

(a) displaying a plurality of main menu items and an item indicator on a screen;

(b) opening a first space between a first main menu item and a second main menu item adjacent to the first main menu item when the first main menu item is selected using the item indicator;

(c) displaying, in the first space, at least one sub-menu item corresponding to the first main menu item;

(d) erasing the displayed at least one sub-menu item and closing the first space when a new main menu item is selected using the item indicator;

(e) opening a second space between the new main menu item and a main menu item adjacent to the new first main menu item;

and

(f) displaying, in the second space, at least one sub-menu item corresponding to the new main menu item.

12. A method of claim 11, wherein a main menu item is

selected when a user positions the item indicator on a main menu item.

13. A method of claim 11, wherein a main menu item is selected when a user positions the item indicator on a main menu item and enters a selection key.

14. A method of claim 11, wherein the item indicator is one of either a highlight or a cursor.

15. A method of claim 11, wherein main menu items are displayed simultaneously on the screen when a user request a display of the main menu items through a selecting device.

16. A method of claim 11, wherein main menu items are sequentially displayed within a predetermined time period when a user request to display the first menu level is input through a selecting device.

17. A method of claim 11, wherein sub-menu items corresponding to a main menu item are displayed simultaneously when a user selects a main menu item using the item indicator.

18. A method of claim 11, wherein a space slides open within a predetermined time period and sub-menu items corresponding to

a main menu item are sequentially displayed in the slide opened space, when a user selects a main menu item using the item indicator.

5 19. A method for displaying a menu in an OSD device, comprising the steps of:

(a) displaying a plurality of main menu items in a first region of a screen when a user request a display of main menu items using an item indicator and a selecting device;

10 (b) opening a first space between a first main menu item and a second main menu item adjacent to the first main menu item when the first main menu item is selected using the item indicator and the selecting device;

(c) displaying, in the first space, at least one sub-menu item corresponding to the first main menu item;

15 (d) displaying a function control window corresponding to a selected sub-menu item in a second region of the screen, when a sub-menu item is selected using the item indicator and the selecting device; and

20 (e) controlling a function in the displayed function control window using the selecting device and the item indicator.

20. A method of claim 19, wherein the first main menu item is selected when a user positions the item indicator on the first main menu item.

21. A method of claim 19, wherein the first main menu item is selected when a user positions the item indicator on the first main menu item and enters a selection key on the selecting device.

5 22. A method of claim 19, wherein in (a), the plurality of main menu items are simultaneously displayed.

23. A method of claim 19, wherein in (a), the plurality of main menu items are sequentially displayed within a predetermined time period.

10 24. A method of claim 19, wherein in (c), sub-menu items corresponding to the first main menu item are displayed simultaneously when the user selects the first main menu item in (b).

15 25. A method of claim 19, wherein in (c), the first space slides open within a predetermined time period and sub-menu items corresponding to the first main menu item are sequentially displayed in the first space as the first space slides open, when the user selects the first main menu item in (b).

20 26. A method of claim 19, wherein displaying the screen in a first color, displaying the plurality of main menu items in a

second color, displaying the at least one sub-menu item in a third color, and displaying the function control window in a fourth color; and wherein at least two of the first, second, third or fourth colors are identical or all four of the first, second, third and fourth colors are different.

27. A method of claim 19, wherein displaying the screen in a first luminance, displaying the plurality of main menu items in a second luminance, displaying the at least one sub-menu item in a third luminance, and displaying the function control window in a fourth luminance; and wherein at least two of the first, second, third or fourth luminances are identical or all four of the first, second, third and fourth luminances are different.

28. A method of claim 19, further comprising:

(f) erasing the displayed at least one sub-menu item and closing the first space when a new main menu item is selected using the item indicator and the selecting device;

(g) opening a second space between the new main menu item and a main menu item adjacent to the new first main menu item; and

(h) displaying, in the second space, at least one sub-menu item corresponding to the new main menu item.

29. A method of claim 19, further comprising:

(f) erasing the displayed function control window from the second region of the screen when a new sub-menu item is selected using the item indicator and the selecting device; and

(g) displaying, in the second region, a function control window corresponding to the new sub-menu item.

30. A method of claim 19, wherein the selecting device is any one of a key panel, a remote controller, a keyboard or a mouse.

31. A method of claim 19, wherein the item indicator is one of either a highlight or a cursor.

32. An OSD device comprising:

a storage which stores a plurality of OSD main menu items, a data on at least one sub-menu item corresponding to each of the main menu items, and a system program;

a screen which displays the OSD menu;

a selecting device which allows a user to move an item indicator on the screen and to select a menu item using the item indicator; and

a controller which displays the main menu items from the storage on the screen device, opens a space between a main menu item selected through the selecting device and a main menu item adjacent to the selected main menu item, and displays at least

one sub-menu item corresponding to the selected main menu item in the opened space using the data stored in the storage.

33. An OSD device of claim 32, wherein the selecting device includes at least one direction key to move the item indicator
5 and an enter key to select a menu item.

34. An OSD device of claim 32, wherein the selecting device is any one of a key panel, a remote controller, a keyboard or a mouse.

35. An OSD device of claim 32, wherein the item indicator
10 is one of either a highlight or a cursor.

Add A'3